Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for preparing closed bacterial ghosts, comprising bringing bacterial ghosts into contact with carrier materials under conditions under which closure of the bacterial ghosts takes place,

characterized in that

the closure is mediated by way of specific interactions between the partners of a bioaffinity binding pair, which partners are anchored on the ghosts and/~~or~~ the carrier materials.

2. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 1,

characterized in that

the partners of the bioaffinity binding pair are selected from the group consisting of biotin/streptavidin, biotin/avidin, biotin analogues/streptavidin, biotin analogues/avidin, hapten/antibodies, hapten/antibody fragments, saccharide/lectin, and ligand/receptor.

3. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 2,

characterized in that

the bioaffinity binding pair employed is biotin/streptavidin.

4. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 1,

characterized in that

at least one partner of the bioaffinity binding pair is immobilized on the membrane of the bacterial ghosts and on the carrier material.

5. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 4,

characterized in that

a first partner (P1) of the bioaffinity binding pair is immobilized on the membrane of the bacterial ghosts and a second partner (P2) of the bioaffinity binding pair is immobilized on the carrier material and the closure takes place by way of a P1-P2 interaction.

6. (Canceled)

7. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 1,

characterized in that

the ghosts are prepared from Gram-negative bacteria.

8. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 1,

characterized in that

the ghosts are prepared from recombinant bacteria containing heterologous membrane polypeptides.

9. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 1,

characterized in that

the carrier material employed is lipid vesicles.

10. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 9,

characterized in that

the lipid vesicles employed are vesicles from homogenized cells, in particular bacterial cells, liposomes or membrane-enveloped viruses.

11. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 9, furthermore comprising an at least partial fusion of the membrane of the bacterial ghosts and the membrane of the lipid vesicles.

12. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 1,

further comprising the packing of active compounds into the bacterial ghosts.

13. (Canceled)

14. (Previously Presented) A closed bacterial ghost which can be obtained by the method as claimed in claim 1, with the closure being mediated by way of specific interactions between partners of a bioaffinity binding pair.

15. (Original) The closed bacterial ghost as claimed in claim 14,

characterized in that

it comprises a membrane which is at least partially intact.

16. (Previously Presented) The closed bacterial ghost as claimed in claim 14, characterized in that

it comprises at least one encapsulated active compound.

17. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 12, wherein said active compounds are selected from the group consisting of pharmacologically active substances, genetic material, cell components, labeling substances, vaccines, dyes and combinations thereof.

18. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 12, wherein said active compounds are selected from the group consisting of insecticides, herbicides, nematocides, enzymes for soil improvement, fertilizers, growth promoters and water-binding proteins, and combinations thereof.

19. (Canceled)

20. (New) A method for preparing closed bacterial ghosts, comprising bringing bacterial ghosts into contact with carrier materials under conditions under which closure of the bacterial ghosts takes place,

characterized in that

the closure is mediated by way of specific interactions between the partners of a bioaffinity binding pair, which partners are anchored on the ghosts and the carrier materials and present in free form and at least one first partner (P1) of the bioaffinity binding pair is immobilized on the membrane of the bacterial ghosts and the carrier material and at least one second partner (P2) of the bioaffinity binding pair is present in free form and the closure takes place by way of a P1-P2-P1 interaction.